IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 18 in the Specification as follows:

[0018] The copper alloy is preferably reinforced with about 15 to about 70 volume percent of reinforcing material. In another example, the copper alloy is reinforced with about 55 to about 85 volume percent of the reinforcing material. The reinforcing material may be in any selected form such as particulates, whiskers, or fibers. Nevertheless, as described herein, the reinforcing material may be used in any appropriate form. Various ceramic reinforcement materials may include alumina, silicon carbide, and the like. Once the metal alloy is injected into the reinforcing material preform a metal matrix composite is formed.

Please amend paragraph 23 in the Specification as follows:

[0023] The reinforcing material may include any appropriate type of material. In addition, the reinforcing material may include various shapes and sizes of materials. For example, two general types of reinforcing materials or particles may be used, such as a continuous or a long fiber, a discontinuous or particulate, or a cut fiber. Generally, a continuous fiber is a fiber that includes at least one dimension that is substantially equal to a dimension of the material or the formed component. Therefore, a continuous fiber when used as preform reinforcement material will generally include at least one dimension that is equal to one dimension of the preform size. Generally, however, the fibers include a diameter ~~that are~~ between about 5 and about 30 micrometers. In one example, the fibers include a diameter between about 8 and about 20 micrometers. Therefore, the length over diameter ratio may be substantially large. A cut fiber reinforcement material may include a fiber that includes a length or a diameter ratio that is still fairly large, yet the length is still not the length of a preform shape. A particulate material may generally include a particle size that includes an average diameter of a selected diameter such as about 5 to about 100 micrometers.